

REMARKS

In the present Amendment, Claim 1 has been amended to make a grammatical change, and Claim 8 has been amended to delete the recitation “as an effective component.” No new matter has been added, and entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11 are pending.

In paragraph No. 3 of the Action, Claim 8 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite.

The Examiner considers the phrase “as an effective component” in Claim 8 indefinite because it is not clear what is meant by “effective.”

As noted, Claim 8 has been amended to address the Examiner’s concern. Withdrawal of the § 112 rejection is respectfully requested.

In paragraph No. 7 of the Action, Claims 1-11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Otsuki et al (JP 2003/331868, “Otsuki”).

This rejection should be withdrawn because Otsuki is not prior art with respect to the present claims.

Otsuki was published on November 21, 2003, which is later in time than Applicants’ priority date of April 28, 2003.

To remove Otsuki as prior art under § 102(a) and to perfect their claim to priority, Applicants submit herewith a verified English translation of their priority document. Section 112 support for the present claims in the priority document is as shown in the following chart:

Present Claim	Support in Priority Document
1	Claim 1 and paragraph [0010]
2	Claim 2
3	Claim 3

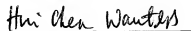
Present Claim	Support in Priority Document
4	Claim 4
5	Claim 5 and paragraph [0010]
6	Claim 6
7	Claim 7
8	Claim 8
9	Claim 9
10	Paragraph [0025]
11	Claim 10 and paragraph [0025]

In view of the above, Otsuki is not § 102(a) prior art with respect to the present claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection based on Otsuki are respectfully requested.

Allowance is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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